

REMARKS

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1-8 and 14-22 are pending. Claims 14-22 are amended. Claims 1 and 14 are independent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner states that claims 1-8 are allowed and claims 14-22 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the early indication of allowable subject matter in this application. Claims 14-22 have been amended as set forth above in order to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Accordingly, all claims are in condition for allowance.

Drawings

It is gratefully appreciated that the Examiner has accepted the drawings.

Claim for Priority

It is gratefully appreciated that the Examiner has acknowledged the Applicant's claim for foreign priority.

Information Disclosure Citation

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for considering the reference supplied with the Information Disclosure Statements filed January 5, 2007 and June 16, 2005, and for providing the Applicant with initialed copies of the PTO forms filed therewith.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

Claims 14 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner has set forth certain instances wherein the claim language is not clearly understood.

In order to overcome this rejection, the Applicant has amended claims 14-22 to correct each of the deficiencies specifically pointed out by the Examiner. The Applicant respectfully submits that the claims, as amended, particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

All claims are now in condition for allowance.

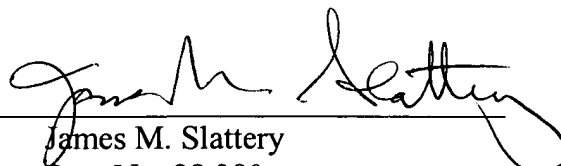
CONCLUSION

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and that the present application is in condition for allowance.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to telephone Carl T. Thomsen (Reg. No. 50,786) at (703) 208-4030(direct line).

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,
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